

Francisco Marin House  
47 Marine Street  
St. Augustine  
St. Johns County  
Florida

HABS No. FLA-166  
HABS  
FLA.

55- SAUG

39-

PHOTOGRAPH  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Eastern Office, Design and Construction  
143 South Third Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

## FRANCISCO MARIN HOUSE

Address: 47 Marine Street, St. Augustine, St. Johns County,  
Florida

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Present Owner: Mrs. William Aquila Lewis, 43 Marine Street,  
St. Augustine, Florida; and Mount Eccentric,  
The Plains, Farquier County, Virginia

Present Occupant: Tenants

Present Use: Rental apartments

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Elixio de la Puente Map of January 22, 1764, shows no houses on this block (Block LL).

By 1788, the Rocque Map, (Block 36 - Lot 232), shows a timber-frame house, in bad condition, owned by Manuel Deven, with Deed; lot owned by Jessie Fish.

In 1789, Manuel Deven sold to Francisco Marin a wooden house on Calle Marina, on King's lot, bought at auction when sold to pay cost of criminal suit against Jos. Capo; bounded East by the sea, West by Street of the Barracks, South by Francisco de Burgo, North by Pablo Villa. (Escrituras - 1789).

On July 1, 1791, Francisco Marin received a grant for this lot (No. 166) pledging payments. (Escrituras - 1791, Page 189).

On May 11, 1799, Francisco Marin made his will in which he leaves the property to his son Francisco under the following conditions:

[Translation] The value of a small wooden house that I had in a lot of the King in the Marina Street, that goes to the Barracks, bounded East with the Marina [sea], West with said street [Marina], North with Pedro de Cala, South with Miguel Isnardy; in which lot my son Francisco built a stone house in which he used most of the material of said house that was worth over \$100, the price I paid for it. Hence I agree that it remain a part of his estate if he so desires, making good or satisfying what monies remain to be paid, taking into consideration the fact that he must also pay for the labor of my aforesaid negro whom he used for the period of one month in building the house. Therefore, I bequeath him the lot being his responsibility to satisfy the Royal Treasury with the corresponding yearly interests when requested [by the Royal Treasury], or sent voluntarily.

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(Testamentary Proceedings - Year 1815 - Box 49-53 - Reel 12,  
Document No. 30 "Claim from Francisco Medicis")

On July 3, 1806, Governor White gave title of Lot 166 - Block 22 to Francisco Marin [Jr.]. The dimensions and location given in the Escrituras are: North-South 14 varas, East-West 23 varas, bounded North by Francisco Rovira, South by the heirs of Miguel Ysnardy. (Escrituras - 1806, page 233v.)

Subsequent Owners

February 23, 1876      Mathias C. Marine, Executor and Trustee under the will of Antonia P. Marin TO Andrew J. Goss  
Deed Book V, page 410 - St. Johns County  
Records Office.

January 21, 1878      Andrew J. Goss TO Charles H. Bohn  
Deed Book X, page 191 - St. Johns County  
Records Office.

The 1893 Fire Insurance Map shows a wooden addition had already been added to the stone house.

February 12, 1894      Charles H. Bohn TO Henry Belknap  
Deed Book WW, page 9 - St. Johns County  
Records Office.

May 1, 1909            Francis Peabody, Jr. and Edward K. Arnold,  
Executors under the will of Henry Belknap  
TO John T. and Leonora Campbell  
Deed Book 16, page 484 - St. Johns County  
Records Office

From 1910 on the Fire Insurance Map shows that the previous wooden addition had been greatly extended toward Bay Street.

October 17, 1925      John T. and Leonora Campbell TO  
Elwood C. Salmon  
Deed Book 64, page 472 - St. Johns County  
Records Office

March 2, 1932          Elwood C. and Adele S. Salmon TO  
Beulah Robinson Lewis  
Deed Book 100, page 177 - St. Johns County  
Records Office.  
(Lot 2 - Block 22 according to 1905 map,  
77 feet on East-West and 137 feet  
North-South.)

Compiled by Mrs. Doris C. Wiles and  
Mrs. Eugenia Arana  
St. Augustine Historical Society  
1963

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PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. Condition of Fabric: Fairly well maintained.

B. Detailed Description of Exterior

1. Number of stories: Two stories.  
Number of bays: Three-bay front x one bay.  
(Only the older masonry front section of the present structure is observed and recorded here.)  
Over-all dimensions: Approximately 28'-4" x 17'-3".  
Lay-out: Rectangular shape.
2. Foundations: Unobserved; however, the usual method of foundation construction in St. Augustine, as indicated on p. 68 in Albert Manucy's The Houses of Saint Augustine, 1565-1821 (St. Augustine, Florida: St. Augustine Historical Society, 1962), probably was used in the Marin House: "By present-day standard, house walls had no foundations. The usual preparation was to excavate a trench slightly wider than the wall and about a foot deep. A thin layer of flat stones or oyster shells was tossed in as a sort of spread footing, after which the workmen began wall construction without further ado."
3. Wall construction, finish, and color: Coquina masonry walls with stucco painted red. The surface has weathered considerably and is deteriorating.
4. Structural system: Frame interior partitions.
5. Chimneys: Exterior chimney of coquina masonry with plaster (also painted red) on the south, side wall.
6. Openings:
  - a. Doorways and doors: Plain wooden door frames. Two-paneled wooden side doors (top panel with three lights). The entry from the south also has a louvered double door that is covered with screening.
  - b. Windows and shutters: Two-over-two-light and one-over-one-light double-hung wooden sash. The wooden exterior shutters on the first-floor windows are all three paneled; those on the second floor are louvered.
7. Roof:
  - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof with modern cement asbestos shingling.
  - b. Eaves: Open eaves (rafters have rounded ends).

C. Detailed Description of Interior

1. Floor plan: Two-room plan. (The interior of the Marin House was completely remodeled in the late nineteenth or twentieth century.)
2. Stairways: Stairway now located in later frame rear addition. There is no access to the second floor from the first in the Marin House itself, since each floor is a part of a separate apartment unit. These apartments are rented by the owner, generally on a seasonal basis.
3. Flooring: Linoleum-covered flooring.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Walls have narrow molded board (vertical) wainscoting. These are covered with a heavy shellac or stain. Frame partition between the two rooms is covered with wallpaper.
5. Doorways and doors: Narrow molded wooden door frames. Narrow, four-paneled wooden doors into later frame rear wing.
6. Decorative features and trim: Narrow wooden molding about six inches below ceiling line.
7. Lighting: Modern electric lighting.
8. Heating: Oil heater. Fireplace on the south wall of south room on each floor. (Mid- or late-nineteenth century wooden mantel on first-floor fireplace; second floor not accessible at time of recording.)

D. Site

1. Orientation: House faces west on Marine Street; longitudinal axis approximately north-south.
2. Landscaping: A low, three-foot masonry wall is continuous with the front wall of the structure to the north and south along Marine Street. The house is set only a few feet back from the curb line.

Prepared by John C. Poppeliers  
Architectural Historian  
National Park Service  
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